fera (Millsp.) L. C. Wheeler to this species, which he ascribed to Florida and Texas in the United States.—*Charles M. Allen, University of Southwestern Louisiana, Lafayette, Louisiana 70501.*

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FILIFORM CREEPING RHIZOMES IN SOLIDAGO JUNCEA (COMPOSITAE).—Fernald (Rhodora 38:212. 1936) suggested an easy way to separate *Solidago juncea* Ait. from *S. missouriensis* Nutt.: the absence of filiform creeping rhizomes ("filiform stolons") in *S. juncea* and their presence in *S. missouriensis*. One exception he noted was that *S. juncea* from the sandy southeastern section of Massachusetts did develop rhizomes similar to those of *S. missouriensis*.

I have found other areas where *S. juncea* develops rhizomes and thus would like to warn against using this character to separate the taxa. *Solidago juncea* at its southeasternmost limit—in Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia—consistently has rhizomes, probably helping it become and remain established there. On Sand Mt. (northeastern Alabama) in 1970, in a large population of *S. juncea*, less than 2% of the plants flowered. The rest persisted as rosettes and freely produced rhizomes. In southern Illinois in 1972, another population of rhizome-producing *S. juncea* was observed; most of the plants were flowering.

Arthur Cronquist (personal communication) stated that many plants of northeastern *S. juncea* also exhibit rhizomes (both the filiform type and ones that are much stouter); these are deep-seated and usually escape collection. In southern *S. juncea* I have collected, the rhizomes are easily broken off, giving the impression that the specimen possesses none. Thus, a few plants of the series below appear to lack rhizomes. Nevertheless, most plants from each site have them. Voucher specimens are: *SOLIDAGO JUNCEA*. TENNESSEE: Bradley Co., *Morton 4425*. ALABAMA: Jackson Co., *Morton 4415* (only basal rosette), *4473*. GEORGIA: Whitfield Co., *Morton 4424* (all above dup. det. A. Cronquist; GA, NY, TENN). ILLINOIS: Alexander Co., *Morton 5119* (NY, SMU).

When identifying *S. juncea* or *S. missouriensis* one should be careful in using Fernald's key (*Gray's Manual of Botany*, 8th ed., 1950) because rhizomes seem much more prevalent in *S. juncea* than he supposed. Cronquist's (Gleason and Cronquist, *Manual of the vascular plants of northeastern United States and adjacent Canada*, 1963) use of leaf shape and venation

pattern better distinguishes the two: *S. juncea* has leaves scarcely or not at all triple-nerved and 2-7.5 cm wide, while *S. missouriensis* has leaves more or less strongly triple-nerved, often less than 2 cm wide.

One chromosome count, $n=9$, was made for *S. juncea*, agreeing with other published counts for the species. The voucher is: ALABAMA: Jackson Co., *Morton 3366* (TENN).—*Gary H. Morton, New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York, 10458.*

DIRCA PALUSTRIS (THYMELAEACEAE): NEW TO LOUISIANA.—Nevling (Jour. Arnoid Arb. 43:432. 1962) did not include Louisiana in the range of *Dirca palustris L.* In personal correspondence (1970) he indicated he was not aware of *D. palustris* having previously been collected from Louisiana. In Caldwell Parish I found a large population of this species covering several acres and scattered throughout two branches of a large valley in the drainage of Winn Branch 8 miles NNW of Columbia. In some places the plants formed extensive thickets.

Leatherwood is often viewed as a facultative calciphile. I have collected it on limestone cliffs in Sevier Co., Tenn. and Independence Co., Ark. In Caldwell Parish it occurs on sandy moist soil in forests of *Fagus grandifolia, Liriodendron tulipifera,* and various *Quercus.* It is most abundant on the floor of deep valleys but spreads up adjoining slopes. It flowers in late February and the fruits fall by late April. There is disagreement in literature about the fruit color. In Louisiana the mature fruits are greenish yellow, turning purple as they dry before or after falling.

The stems of leatherwood are very flexible; descriptions in literature often give the impression that the wood is pliable. However, the wood itself is extremely brittle; it is the bark that is pliable.

Voucher specimens (*Thomas et al. 12828,* 28 Feb 1969) are available for exchange and are on deposit at SMU and GH.—*R. Dale Thomas, Northeast Louisiana University, Monroe, Louisiana 71201.*

A NEW SPECIES OF FRANKENIA (FRANKENIACEAE) FROM GYPSEOUS SOIL OF NORTH CENTRAL MEXICO.—FRANKENIA **leverichii** Turner, sp. nov. Plantae perennes suffruticosae usque ad 3 dm altae. Caules parce ramosi farinosi. Rami oppositi basi fragiles pallide brunnei alibi griseo-virides ca. 1 mm diametro. Internodia 7-10 mm longa. Folia opposita obovata-elliptica vel elliptica 4-5 mm longa 1.0-1.5 mm lata apiculata basi attenuata supra minute pubescentia subtus farinosa margine revoluto. Petioli ca. 1 mm longi alati ciliati alis trans nodo confluentibus. Flores solitarii axillares pedicellis 2-3 mm longis bracteis 4 ca. 3 mm longis 1 mm latis. Calycis tubus manifeste 5-costatus 2-3 mm longus griseo-virides sed costae basi purpurescentes. Calycis lobi 5 ca. 1 mm longi. Petala 5 unguiculata oblanceolata pallide rosea apice erosa calycem 1.5 mm superantes. Petali dimidium inferum paginae ventralis squama lineari ligulari. Stamina saepe